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January 24, 2002

Chata Hesse
Special Attorney, Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
401 D Street, NW, Suite 1210
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

Support the settlement agreement and end the Microsoft lawsuit.

The Microsoft lawsuit has already wasted over \$40 million of taxpayers money. Even worse, this misguided lawsuit which was filed in the name of preserving competition, will stifle innovation, hurt consumers and penalize success.

Microsoft has been a model for a corporate success story and the pursuit of the American Dream. Over the past 10 years, Microsoft has lowered its prices, created a better product, and invested enormous sums of money in research and development. This doesn't sound like monopolistic behavior by any standard. The federal government should not reduce a company's incentive to innovate.

Government intervention into the world of high tech programming and design sets a dangerous, and potentially disastrous precedent. Dictating to Microsoft what technology it can develop to increase the effectiveness of existing products or meet the rapidly expanding needs of users could cripple the technological innovation that has been the hallmark of our high tech, internet economy.

The Microsoft lawsuit hurts consumers, rather than helps them. Rather than protecting consumers, drastic remedies such as breaking up Microsoft would be a disaster for consumers and businesses. The integration and standardization Windows brought us has been a boon for the public as well as for our economic productivity. What Bill Gates understood, much to his competitors' chagrin was the consumers - people who use computers, not live computers - want an affordable and reliable system that works with and understands other systems.

Promoting Our Quality of Life Through Job Prosperity

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MICHAEL REINO, ESQ.

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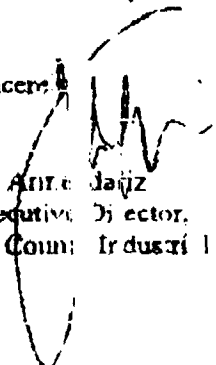
Government intervention into the world of high tech programming and design sets a dangerous and potentially disastrous precedent. Dictating to Microsoft what technology it can develop to increase the effectiveness of existing products or meet the rapidly expanding needs of users could cripple the technological innovation that has been the hallmark of our high tech, internet economy.

One could argue in fact that the genesis of the huge decline in the Nasdaq, which so far has resulted in more than \$2 trillion of lost wealth, is primarily the result of the government's sustained attack on Microsoft's right to innovate. After all, today Microsoft, to borrow Intel's

Microsoft appears to be a Government target because of their success as a company. We need to reward success and innovation, rather than attack a company because of their success. Microsoft's success should be viewed as an asset, not a liability. The consumer has benefitted from Microsoft's success. The prospect of future benefits to the consumer should not be stifled by our government. Similarly, other companies should not have to worry that their success could someday be threatened by heavy-handed government action, oppressive attorneys fees and a legal action designed to harass, publicly smear and possibly even break apart the business. The message we must send is that success should be rewarded and not punished.

We hope the consent decree is adopted and the federal lawsuit is dropped.

Sincerely,


Joe Andrejak
Executive Director
Silicon Valley Industrial Association

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